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PERFORATED STOCK FOR LABELING CD-ROM JEWEL CASE

The present invention relates to the field of perforated sheet suitable for use in a computer printer, and more particularly, to a perforated sheet designed to label a CD-ROM jewel case.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The proliferation of compact disks (discs), also known as laser disks, in the form of music as well as CD-ROM products has become extensive. In recent years, recordable compact disks such as those produced by SONY, 3M, and KODAK have grown in popularity. Further, these disks are being used for archival data storage, immediate distribution of data, and for demonstration purposes.

With this recent use has grown a need to label these disks and their storage containers once they have been produced. The assignee of the present invention produces a product known as "Neat-O", which centers a self-adhesive label on a CD-ROM before contact, and thus allows a label to be custom printed and then near-perfectly applied. However, the CD-ROM is then placed in a so-called jewel case, which must

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also be labeled, particularly if the disk is obscured.

While manufacturers of large numbers of identical disks have their labels or identifying information lithographed, this method is impractical for short runs of disks.

Ink markers may also be used to label jewel cases, but this manual method lacks precision.

SUMMARY AND OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of the invention to provide a die perforated sheet or set of sheets which are suitable for labeling of a CD-ROM jewel case. By providing a standard sheet, edges need not be manually cut for each label, and standard letter size sheets may be provided for use in standard laser printers, ink jet printers, and copying devices. After printing, these sheets are torn along the perforation and inserted in the jewel case. The quality of presentation is then limited only by the quality of the printing operation.

A preferred sheet has perforated margins outlining a pair of jewel case face inserts for the front and rear casing, and which may be printed on both sides. The preferred size is 138mm wide, with a 6mm wide "wing" on each side separated from the body of the face insert by a crease line. Each insert is preferably 117.5mm high.

A jewel case also includes a booklet, which is inserted inside the front face insert and above the disk. The present invention therefore also provides a preperforated and scored booklet having a width of 119.5mm and a height of 241mm, scored 120.5mm from the top for controlled folding. This booklet may also be printed on both sides.

The perforations are preferably of a type known as "microperforation", which leave a relatively clean edge and do not disrupt the operation of a laser printer or other type of printing or copying device, such as an ink-jet printer or photocopier. These perforations need not end at the corners of the insert, and for example may extend to the edges of the page, to allow use of a shear force to commence the separation of the insert from the remainder of the sheet. The stock is preferably 80-100 pound stock; however lighter stocks may be used where the printer does not handle such heavy stocks easily. The stock may be glossy, coated or clay finish.

These and other objects and features of the present invention will become more fully apparent from the following description and appended claims taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like numerals refer to like parts.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Fig. 1 shows a pair of perforated and scored outlines on a letter size sheet for front and rear inserts for a CD-ROM jewel case according to the present invention; and

Fig. 2 shows a perforated and scored outline of a CD-ROM jewel case booklet according to the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The invention will now be described by way of the drawing, in which corresponding reference numerals indicate corresponding structures in the figure.

Fig. 1 shows a preferred layout of a perforated and scored sheet for printing CD-ROM jewel case front and rear inserts.

A sheet 1 is provided having a defined pattern 2, 2' of reduced strength, allowing separation along the defined pattern 2, 2'. The defined pattern corresponds to an insert for a CD-ROM jewel case (not shown). The sheet 1 is generally paper, but may be any suitable printable media.

The reduced strength pattern 2, 2' is formed by perforation of the sheet 1, such as with a perforation die.

The defined patterns 2, 2' also include a pair of scored lines 3, 3', each of said pair of scored lines 3, 3' defining a folding axis. The folding scores 3, 3' are preferably imposed during the same operation as the perforation.

The sheet 1 preferably corresponds to a standard paper size, and more preferably letter size or A4 size, and most preferably letter size.

As shown in Fig. 1, both the front and rear inserts 4, 5 may be provided on a single sheet 1, laid out as identical defined regions 3, 3', symmetrical about both the vertical and horizontal axis. Thus, the paper orientation is immaterial during printing. Of course, the sheet 1 may be preprinted, in which case the orientation would matter. The sheet 1 is preferably a heavy weight paper, of at least 25 pound and more preferably 80-100 pound stock.

In order to correspond to a CD-ROM jewel case, the dimensions of each pattern are preferably about 150mm by 117.5mm.

On order to facilitate folding the edges of the front and rear inserts 4, 5 to fit into the sides of the CD-ROM jewel case, the pattern further includes a pair of scored folding lines 3, 3' to provide three regions, two lateral regions 6, 6' each being about 6mm wide by 117.5mm long and bounded interiorly by one of said folding lines 3, 3' and a central region 7, 7' being about 138mm by 117.5mm and being bounded by both of said folding lines 3, 3'.

As shown in Fig. 2, the present invention also provides a CD-ROM jewel case booklet, as a sheet 10 having a defined pattern 11 of reduced strength, allowing separation along the defined pattern 11. The defined pattern 11 is preferably a perforation pattern, formed in a sheet of paper. In this case, the sheet is preferably at least 25 pound, and more preferably a heavy stock, 80-100 pound stock, for example. The sheet 10 is preferably a standard size sheet, and more preferably letter size or A4 size, and most preferably letter size.

The sheet 10 further includes a scored line 12, defining a folding axis of the booklet.

The booklet is preferably defined as a rectangular pattern 11 having dimensions of about 119.5mm by 241mm, with the scored folding line 12 to provide two regions, each being about 119.5mm wide and 120.5mm long.

While the above detailed description has shown, described and pointed out the fundamental novel features of the invention as applied to various embodiments, it will be understood that various omissions and substitutions and changes in the form and details of the device illustrated may be made by those skilled in the art, without departing

from the spirit of the invention. Consequently, the full scope of the invention should be ascertained by the appended claims.